

Today's weather



HIGH: 76
LOW: 56

Sunrise: 7:33
Sunset: 6:56

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HOPE RECOVERY COMMUNITY

Organization gets national certification

Sara Crawford
The Gazette

MEDINA — Hope Recovery Community is now one of 167 recovery support organizations in the United States that have been nationally certified by Faces and Voices of Recovery.

Faces and Voices of Recovery is an organization focused on the recovery of people throughout the United States. Through the Association of Recovery Community Organizations, Faces and Voices brings together the network of organizations working on helping people recover.

According to Executive Director Stefanie Robinson, Hope Recovery Community began the process months ago to complete the lengthy application to become an ARCO member.

Once submitted, there was an interview process where Faces and Voices provided feed-

back to the organization and then began the review process.

"They look at all your programming, they look at your social media, they look at your website," Robinson said. "They're looking at all those things to make sure that you're meeting those best practices."

With the review committee's approval, Hope Recovery Community found out that it was a nationally certified recovery support organization within the past few weeks.

With this certification, Hope Recovery Community has become the sixth certified recovery support organization in Ohio, with other locations in the Northeast Ohio area and in Columbus.

As a part of ARCO, Robinson has the opportunity to meet with other executive directors across the country who are also a part of the association.

"To be able to connect and network with other executive directors of RCOs in other states is really great because I want to see what other people are doing," Robinson said. "Where can we learn? Where can we grow? What can we share with other people as well?"

Robinson said that Hope Recovery Community is still learning and growing, with less than five years under its belt as an organization.

Hope Recovery Community was formed in the fall of 2018, with its Medina location opening in the fall of 2019. Since then, the organization has grown with expansion out into Brunswick and offering a range of activities for those in recovery.

Robinson said the community has remained supportive of the organization and its work since the beginning, as has the

Medina County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board.

"(The ADAMH Board) is investing in our growth in the addition," Robinson said. "It just goes to show they believe in recovery, and they back it up with funding, as well."

Hope Recovery Community's Medina location, at 200 Highland Drive, is being expanded by 3,000 square feet to create more space for the number of people attending meetings and different programming.

Construction on the expansion is expected to be completed in mid-December.

"It's mind-blowing," Robinson said. "Every time I pull into Hope Recovery Community, it takes my breath away."

Contact reporter Sara Crawford at (330) 721-4063 or scrawford@medina-gazette.com.